

Sin is Dangerous

Numbers 19:1 And the Lord spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, 2 This is the ordinance of the law which the Lord hath commanded, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they **bring thee a red heifer without spot,** wherein is **no blemish,** and upon which **never came yoke:** 3 And ye shall give her unto Eleazar the priest, that he may **bring her forth without the camp,** and one shall **slay her before his face:** 4 And Eleazar the priest shall **take of her blood** with his finger, and **sprinkle of her blood** directly before the tabernacle of the congregation **seven times:** 5 And one shall **burn the heifer in his sight; her skin, and her flesh, and her**

blood, with her dung, shall he burn: 6 And the priest shall take cedar wood, and hyssop, and scarlet, and cast it into the midst of the burning of the heifer. 7 Then the priest shall wash his clothes, and he shall bathe his flesh in water, and afterward he shall come into the camp, and the priest shall be unclean until the even. 8 And he that burneth her shall wash his clothes in water, and bathe his flesh in water, and shall be unclean until the even. 9 And a man that is clean shall **gather up the ashes of the heifer, and lay them up without the camp in a clean place, and it shall be kept for the congregation of the children of Israel for a water of separation: it is a purification for sin.** 10 And he that gathereth the ashes of the heifer shall **wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even:** and it shall be unto the children of Israel, and unto the stranger

that sojourneth among them, for a statute for ever. **11** He that **toucheth the dead body of any man shall be unclean seven days.** **12** He shall **purify himself with it on the third day,** and on **the seventh day he shall be clean:** but if he purify not himself the third day, **then the seventh day he shall not be clean.** **13** Whosoever toucheth the dead body of any man that is dead, and purifieth not himself, **defileth the tabernacle of the Lord; and that soul shall be cut off from Israel:** because the water of separation was not sprinkled upon him, he shall be unclean; his uncleanness is yet upon him. **14** This is the law, when a man dieth in a tent: **all that come into the tent, and all that is in the tent, shall be unclean seven days.** **15** And **every open vessel,** which hath no covering bound upon it, is unclean. **16** And whosoever **toucheth one**

that is slain with a sword in the open fields, or a dead body, or a bone of a man, or a grave, shall be unclean seven days. **17** And for an unclean person they shall take of the ashes of the burnt heifer of purification for sin, and running water shall be put thereto in a vessel: **18** And a clean person shall take hyssop, and dip it in the water, and sprinkle it upon the tent, and upon all the vessels, and upon the persons that were there, and upon him that touched a bone, or one slain, or one dead, or a grave: **19** And the clean person shall sprinkle upon the unclean on the third day, and on the seventh day: and on the seventh day he shall purify himself, and wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and shall be clean at even. **20** But the man that shall be unclean, and shall not purify himself, that soul shall be cut off from among the congregation, because he hath defiled the sanctuary of the Lord: the water of separation hath not been sprinkled upon him; he is unclean. **21** And it shall be a perpetual statute unto them, that he that sprinkleth the water of separation shall wash his clothes; and he that toucheth the water of separation shall be unclean until even. **22** And whatsoever the unclean

person toucheth shall be unclean; and the soul that toucheth it shall be unclean until even.

1. A Picture of Jesus [2](#) This is the ordinance of the law which the Lord hath commanded, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, that they **bring thee a red heifer**

without spot, wherein is **no**

blemish, and upon which **never**

came yoke:

a. Who else has there ever been that was without spot and blemish

i. The blood of Christ [Hebrews 9:14](#) How much more shall **the blood of Christ,** who through the eternal Spirit offered himself **without spot** to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

ii. Jesus was that lamb without spot or blemish

I Peter 1:19 But with **the precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb **without blemish and without spot:**

b. Who else has never borne the yoke of slavery to sin

John 8:32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth

shall make you free. ³³ They answered him, We

be Abraham's seed, and **were never in bondage**

to any man: how sayest thou, **Ye shall be made**

free? ³⁴ Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto

you, **Whosoever committeth**

sin is the servant of sin. ³⁵

And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but

the Son abideth ever. ³⁶ If the Son therefore shall make

you free, ye shall be free indeed. Galatians 5:1 Stand fast

therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us

free, and be not entangled again with the **yoke of bondage.**

c. There are interesting things that are hard to understand

i. The animal was not male

ii. It had to be red

1. Maybe it was red to speak of the blood

2. Maybe it was red to speak of the earth, the red earth

3. The word Adam comes from a Hebrew word that means red earth

iii. The animal was killed outside the camp and not by the high priest but by a layman **3 And ye shall give her unto Eleazar the priest, that he may bring her forth without the camp, and one shall slay her before his face:**

1. Eleazar was Aaron's son and successor

2. He leads the animal out

3. And someone kills the animal in front of him

iv. The blood was burned with the carcass not caught and poured out before God

- v. The ashes were gathered and mixed with water to use in ceremonial purification
- d. This animal dies outside the camp like Jesus
Hebrews 13:13 Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.
- e. No altar was used and Eleazar only caught some of the blood and sprinkled it towards the Tabernacle 7 times
- f. The carcass was burned and cedar wood, hyssop, and scarlet wool were thrown in the fire **5** And one shall **burn the heifer in his sight; her skin, and her flesh, and her blood, with her dung, shall he burn:** **6** And the priest shall take cedar wood, and hyssop, and scarlet, and cast it into the midst of the burning of the heifer.
- g. Those involved in the ceremony were unclean till the evening
- h. The sacrifice would serve to cleanse them ceremonially **9**
And a man that is clean shall **gather up the ashes of the heifer, and lay them up without the camp in a clean place, and**

it shall be kept for the congregation of the children of Israel for a water of separation: it is a purification for sin.

2. Hygiene before scientist understood it

- a. Touching a dead body made them unclean **11** He that **toucheth the dead body of any man shall be unclean seven days.** **13**

Whosoever toucheth the dead body of any man that is dead, and purifieth not himself, **defileth the tabernacle of the Lord; and that soul shall be cut off from Israel:** because the water of separation was not sprinkled upon him, he shall be unclean; his uncleanness is yet upon him.

- b. Even if you do not physically touch the body but just breath the air you are unclean **14** This is the law, when a

man dieth in a tent: **all that come into the tent, and all that is in the tent, shall be unclean seven days.**

- c. If you didn't put the top on any vessel then the bowl and anything in it is unclean **15** And **every open vessel**, which hath no covering bound upon it, is unclean.
- d. Even if the person died in battle you would be unclean when you touched them **16** And whosoever **toucheth one that is slain** with a sword in the open fields, or a dead body, or a bone of a man, or a grave, shall be unclean seven days.
- e. If you touched someone that was contaminated then you were also **22** And whatsoever the unclean person toucheth shall be unclean; and the soul that toucheth it shall be unclean until even.
- f. These verses give imminent proof of the divine origin of your Bible

- i. It was 17th century before man understood microscopic organisms, bacteria
 - ii. In the mid 1800s scientist began to understand that typhoid and cholera could be contagious from contaminated water
 - iii. Pasteur in the mid 1800s proved that certain diseases were caused by infectious agents
 - iv. Moses lived over 3000 years before scientist discovered truths that God told His people about
- g. If a person was contaminated then they were to be quarantined for 7 days
- i. There was a purification process. He was to follow the prescription on the third day and then would be clean on the seventh day **12 He shall purify himself with it on the third day, and on the seventh day he shall be clean:** but if he purify not himself the third day, **then the seventh day he shall not be clean.**
 - ii. They took the ashes of the heifer and running water for the ritual **17 And for an unclean person they shall take**

of the ashes of the burnt heifer of purification for sin, and running water shall be put thereto in a vessel:

- iii. This applied to vessels and dwellings as well **18** And a clean person shall take hyssop, and dip it in the water, and sprinkle it upon the tent, and upon all the vessels, and upon the persons that were there, and upon him that touched a bone, or one slain, or one dead, or a grave:
- iv. After the ritual the was to bathe, wash his clothes and finally be clean **19** And the clean person shall sprinkle upon the unclean on the third day, and on the seventh day: and on the seventh day he shall purify himself, and wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and shall be clean at even.

h. Lessons for us

- i. God was concerned with their health
- ii. Cleanliness was very important to avoid getting sick
- iii. Separating those that were sick from others would have been vital
- iv. Stopping the spread of a disease was accomplish by cleaning and quarantine

3. Learn the difference between clean and unclean [20](#) But the man that shall be unclean, and **shall not purify himself**, that soul shall be **cut off** from among the congregation, because he hath defiled the sanctuary of the Lord: the water of separation hath not been sprinkled upon him; **he is unclean.** [21](#) And it shall be a perpetual statute unto them, that he that sprinkleth the water of separation shall wash his clothes; and he that toucheth the water of separation shall be unclean until even.

a. The real lesson was clean and unclean, holy and unholy

b. God was teaching them to be holy [Leviticus 11:44](#) For I am the Lord your God: ye shall therefore sanctify

yourselves, and **ye shall be holy; for I am**

holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.[45](#) For I am

the Lord that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: **ye shall therefore be holy,**

for I am holy.

- c. There is a great lesson of God's people desiring to live holy and pure lives [II Corinthians 7:1](#) Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, **let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**
- d. There cleansing was always dependent on the death of an innocent animal [John 1:29](#) The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold **the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.** [I Peter 1:18](#) Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; [19](#) But with **the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:**
- e. We do not want to be part of this world-this world system-that is in rebellion to His will for our lives

Galatians 1:3 Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, **4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world,** according to the will of God and our Father: Titus 2:13 Looking for that **blessed hope,** and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ; **14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.**

- f. It is a lesson in separation from sin James 1:27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and **to keep himself unspotted from the world.**

- i. It is contagious. If you run with sinners you will be likely to do what they do [Proverbs 1:10](#) **My son, if sinners entice thee, Consent thou not. 11 If they say, Come with us,** let us lay wait for blood, Let us lurk privily for the innocent without cause:
- ii. It contaminates. If you lie down with dogs you will get up with fleas. [Amos 3:3](#) **Can two walk together, except they be agreed?** Birds of a feather flock together. Peruvian saying is Tell me who you run around with and I will tell you who you are
- iii. Sin has consequences
- iv. He cleanses us
 1. We come knowing our sins are forgiven
 2. The substitute has died in your place
 3. Forgiven sin doesn't mean that there aren't consequences that can hurt us and even destroy us physically
 4. Our marriages can be destroyed
 5. Remember if they were in contact with the contagious they would be alone for a week

v. Be cautious about sin

1. Even the one helping clean the contaminated was unclean till evening
2. Sin is dangerous
3. We want to get close to God and away from sin
4. We want to live out who we are